

insects in any stage. The species *juli* Brues which has very similar characters on the pleuræ and is almost identical in coloration has been reared from myriapods. *Perdita* Malloch, which is very closely allied to *juli* has been reared from the larvæ of a butterfly, *Eurytmus eurytheme*. Besides these two, there are several others possessing the strong backwardly directed mesopleural bristle, but with the exception of *ciliata* Zetterstedt, which I have found on carrion and fungi, and *halictorum* Melander and Brues, which has been recorded from burrows of *Halictus*,¹ nothing is known of their habits. Some of the species in Phoridae are true parasites, but in some cases they may only attack wounded larvæ, though it is very probable that like certain species in the Tineinæ (Microlepidoptera), and other groups, they will feed readily upon Lepidopterous or other pupæ.

The type specimens of the species were returned to the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, from which they were sent for identification.

THE PREVALENCE OF *MACROSARGUS CUPARIUS* LINN., IN THE UNITED STATES.

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On May 20, 1914, I received from a correspondent in Wallingford, Conn., several specimens of an unfamiliar insect, with the following accompanying note:—

Under separate cover, I am sending you some grubs I found on my strawberry plants. They were close to the crown of the plant at the base of the dry leaves. Will you please tell me what they are, what harm they do, and how to get rid of them?

The specimens in question might be taken for either larvæ or pupæ. They were mouse-gray in color, about 10 mm. long, nearly 3 mm. broad, and less than 2 mm. thick. The anal extremity was thin and broadly rounded as seen from above: from it toward the head the sides were nearly parallel for about three-fourths of its length; then it tapered to a narrow elongated head with a hemis-

¹ Biological Bull. V, 1902, p. 14.

pherical projection on each side, the projections resembling eyes. The segmentation was well-marked throughout.

These curious specimens were placed in a breeding cage in the insectary, and on June 1, an adult two-winged fly emerged. An-

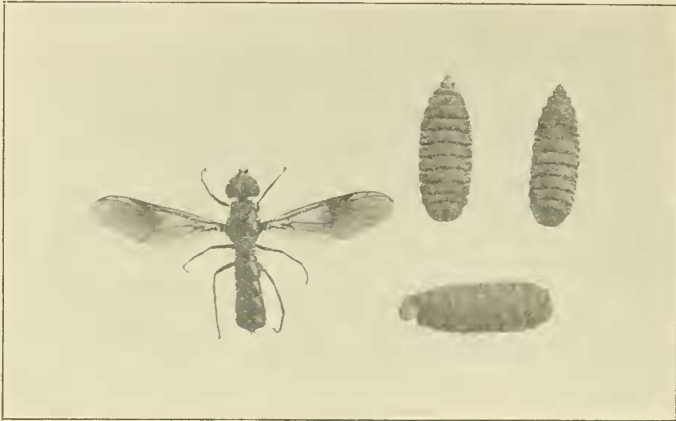


Fig. 1. *Macrosargus cuprarius* Linn.
Adult, larvæ and puparium.

other appeared June 15. These were kindly identified by Mr. C. W. Johnson as *Macrosargus cuprarius* Linn., a European species which has become rather abundant in this country.

As the appearance and habits of its immature stages are not well-known, at least, in this country, this note and the accompanying illustration, from a photograph by Mr. B. H. Walden, may serve to call attention to it. Mr. H. B. Weiss has recently recorded (*Ent. News*, Vol. XXV, p. 395: 1914) this species as having been received in New Jersey on Azaleas, imported from Holland in 1913, but he does not state whether it came in the larval, pupal or adult stages.

In regard to the further distribution of this species Mr. Johnson writes as follows:

I first collected about fifty specimens of this species along Second River, above Belleville, near Newark, N. J., June 12-16, 1892. The capture was recorded (*Entomology News*, Vol. 7, p. 94, 1896) under the name of *Sargus nebeculosus* Zett. which is merely a variation of *cuprarius*. As this species had not been recorded from

America and was not represented in any of the older collections, I was inclined to consider it a recent introduction, but this theory has been somewhat shaken since collecting it in considerable numbers at Niagara Falls, N. Y., June 24-28, 1901, and receiving specimens the same year from Mr. G. Chagnon who collected them at Rigaud, Quebec, July 27. In 1903 I came to Boston and was surprised to find it quite common in the vicinity (Blue Hill, May 30, and Auburndale, July 19-Aug. 13.). Since then I have collected it at the following localities:—Hyannis Port, July 4, 1904; Calais, Me., July 10, 1909; Middletown, Conn., June 17, 1909 and Bretton Woods, N. H., June 27, 1913; near Newport, R. I., June 5, 1914. Recently I have received specimens from Brother Germain, taken at Ottawa, Canada.